

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~cosmetic or pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising, in a physiologically acceptable medium, peptides obtained by the protease digestion of a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1, using an effective quantity, sufficient to increase desquamation, of at least one protease active on a the polypeptide, said protease comprising Endoproteinase LysC, Endoproteinase GluC, Proline-Endopeptidase, Thrombin, Pepsin, Myxobacter AL117 or Elactase;

~~wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.~~

19. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 18, further comprising a glycosidase.

20. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing or treating hyperkeratosis, comprising administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 18 to a patient in need of such prevention or treatment.

21. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing or treating xerosis, ichthyoses, psoriasis, benign or malignant hyperkeratotic tumour lesions or reactive keratoses,

comprising administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 18 to a patient in need of such prevention or treatment.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing or treating leukokeratosis of the uterine neck during prolapsus, buccal leukokeratoses, or benign or malignant hyperkeratotic tumour lesions of the Malpighian mucosae, comprising administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 18 to a patient in need of such prevention or treatment.

23. (Withdrawn) A method of cosmetic treatment for reducing intercorneocyte cohesion or for promoting desquamation, comprising administering an effective amount of the composition as described in claim 18, wherein the composition is applied to the skin of the subject in need of such reduction or promotion.

24. (Currently Amended) Cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition comprising, in a physiologically acceptable medium, ~~at least the following coding a polypeptide encoded by~~ a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2:

atgggctcgt ctcgggcacc ctggatgggg cgtgtgggtg ggcacgggat gatggcactg	60
ctgctggctg gtctcctcct gccagggacc ttggctaaga gcattggcac ctctcagac	120
ccctgtaagg accccacgcg taccacctcc ctaacgacc cctgcctcac tgggaagggt	180
gactccagcg gcttcagtag ctacagtggc tccagcagtt ctggcagctc catttcagt	240
gccagaagct ctggtggtgg ctccagtggg agctccagcg gatccagcat tgcccagggt	300
ggttctgcag gatcttttaa gccaggaacg gggattccc aggtcagcta ctctccgga	360
tctggctcta ctctacaagg tgcatccggt tctctccagc tggggagcag cagctctcac	420
tcgggaagca gcggctctca ctcggaagc agcagctctc attcagcag cagcagcagc	480

tticagttca gcagcagcag ctccaagta gggaatggct ctgctctgcc aaccaatgac 540
 aactcttagc gcggaatact aaacccttcc cagcctggac aaagctcttc ctcttccaa 600
 acctctgggg tatccagcag tggccaaagc gtcagctcca accagcgtcc ctgtagttcg 660
 gacatccccg actctccctg cagtggaggg cccatcgtct cgcactctgg ccctacatc 720
 cccagctccc actctgtgtc aggggggtcag aggcctgtgg tgggtggtgt ggaccagcac 780
 ggttctggtg cccctggagt ggttcaaggt cccccctgta gcaatggtgg ccttccaggc 840
 aagccctgtc cccaatcac ctctgtagac aaatctatg gtggctacga ggtggtgggt 900
 ggctcctctg acagtatct ggttccaggc atgacctaca gtaagggtaa aatctatcct 960
 gtgggctact tcaccaaaga gaaccctgtg aaaggctctc caggggtccc ttccttgca 1020
 gtggggcccc ccctctctga gggcaaatac ttctccagca acccatcat cccagccag 1080
 tcggcagctt cctcgccat tgcgttccag ccagtgggga ctggtggggt ccagctctgt 1140
 ggaggcggct ccacgggctc caagggacct tgcctccct ccagttctcg agtccccagc 1200
 agttctagca ttccagcag cgcgggtca ccctaccatc cctgcggcag tgettccag 1260
 agcccctgct cccaccagg caccggctcc ttacgagca gctccagttc ccaatcgagt 1320
 ggcaaaatca tcctcagcc ttgtggcagc aagtccagtc ctcttggtca ccctgcatg 1380
 tctgtctcct ccttgacact gactgggggc ccgatggct ctccccatcc tgatccctcc 1440
 gctggtgcca agccctgtgg ctccagcagt gctggaaaga tccctgccg ctccatccgg 1500
 gatatcctag cccaagtga gcctctgggg cccagctag ctgaccctga agtttccta 1560
 cccaaggag agttactga cagtcataa 1590

or active fragment thereof.

25. (Currently Amended) The composition according to Claim 24, comprising
~~wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises all or part of the nucleotide sequence as defined~~
~~in Claim 24 of SEQ ID NO:2.~~

27. (Cancelled).

28. (Withdrawn) A method for the preparation of a ribonucleic acid, comprising
using the nucleic acid sequence according to Claim 24.

29. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing or purifying any molecule capable of
binding specifically to a purified polypeptide or to purified proteolysis fragments or to a
synthetic peptide;

wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

30. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing or purifying structural proteins specific
to corneodesmosomes or enzymes of the horny layer of the "protease" or "glycosidase" type,
comprising using a composition comprising one or more purified natural or synthetic
polypeptides, wherein each of the polypeptides comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ
ID NO:1.

31. (Cancelled).

32. (New) The composition according to Claim 24, consisting of all or part of the nucleotide sequence ~~as defined in Claim 24~~ of SEQ ID NO:2.

33. (New) The composition according to Claim 24, consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2.